

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 HALIFA 00385 220104Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 CG-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-02 ICA-20 SP-02 SIL-01 LAB-04

COME-00 /060 W

-----023939 221854Z /41

R 211630Z JUL 78

FM AMCONSUL HALIFAX

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2272

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

AMCONSUL QUEBEC

UNCLAS HALIFAX 0385

E O 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, EWWT, CA

SUBJECT: TUGBOAT STRIKE - HALIFAX, SEPT ISLES, AND

BAIE COMEAU

1. MASTERS AND CHIEF ENGINEERS EMPLOYED ON TUGBOATS OWNED BY EASTERN CANADA TOWING LIMITED WENT ON STRIKE JULY 21, 1978. STRIKE IDLES COMPANY S NINE TUGS AT HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, TWO AT SEPT ISLES, QUEBEC, AND ONE AT BAIE COMEAU, QUEBEC. LABOR DISPUTE CENTERS AROUND WORKING HOURS. MASTERS AND ENGINEERS DEMAND 40 HOUR WORK WEEK; COMPANY REQUIRES 24 HOURS ON FOLLOWED BY 24 HOURS OFF. PAY IS NOT AN ISSUE IN THE STRIKE.

2. EASTERN CANADA TOWING OPERATES THE ONLY COMMERCIAL TUGBOAT SERVICE AT HALIFAX. CONOFF DISCUSSED STRIKE WITH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND GENERAL MANAGER OF THE PORT OF HALIFAX. THEY SAID THAT THE STRIKE WILL HAVE ONLY MINIMAL AFFECT ON THE PORT S OPERATIONS. CONTAINER AND BREAKBULK SHIPS SHOULD BE ABLE TO DOCK WITHOUT TUG ASSISTANCE. STRIKE S MAIN IMPACT WILL UNCLASSIFIED

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BE ON TANKER AND SHIP REPAIR OPERATIONS.

IMPERIAL OIL IS CONSIDERING THE USE OF LIGHTERS TO UNLOAD ITS TANKERS WHICH SUPPLY ITS DARTMOUTH REFINERY.

3. PRESS REPORTS HAD INDICATED THAT HALIFAX PILOTS MIGHT HONOR THE STRIKE. ACCORDING TO THE PORT

OFFICIALS, THIS IS NOT NOW SEEN AS LIKELY. PILOTS ARE
EXPECTED TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE THEIR SERVICES TO VESSELS
ABLE TO DOCK WITHOUT TUGBOAT ASSISTANCE.

MOORE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Event:
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